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RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

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STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA; INR/NESA; INR/B; RRU-NEA
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WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD
LONDON FOR ERELI
E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OIIP KMDR TC
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: IRAQ AND THE U.S. OCCUPATION; IRAN AND THE U.S.; WHITE HOUSE RESIGNATIONS

- 11. SUMMARY: A Kuwaiti intellectual in "Al-Ittihad" opines that the U.S. occupation of Iraq created a crisis for the whole world not just for the Arab world and nobody knows what the solution is. An Egyptian writer in "Al-Khaleej" views that Iran embarrasses the U.S. occupation when it receives loyalty and friendship from Iraqi and Afghani leaders who are key allies of Washington. The editorial in "Al-Khaleej" and a columnist in "Al-Bayan" both regards the ongoing resignations by key White House figures as a series of Bush's failures. End Summary.
- 12. Under the headline "Iraq is everybody's crisis", a Kuwaiti intellectual, Dr. Ahmed Al-Baghdadi, wrote a 08/14 op-ed in Abu Dhabi-based Arabic semi-official daily "Al-Ittihad" (circulation 65,000):
- "The U.S. incorrectly thought that it could remove Saddam and allow Iraqi civilization to peacefully restore order. Instead Iraq has crumbled from within because of the climate of fear created by Saddam that overwhelmed thousands of years of civilization. This instability creates a crisis for the whole world not just for the Arab world, and nobody knows what the solution is."
- 13. Under the headline "Bush's shock", Egyptian columnist, Dr. Mohammed Al-Saeed Idris, wrote 08/16 in "Al-Khaleej" (circulation 90,000):
- "Iran embarrasses the U.S. occupation and drives it to the point of despair when it receives loyalty and friendship from those who rule Baghdad and Kabul, key allies of Washington."
 "Bush now sees that the blockade he wanted to impose on Iran is besieging him, and that his allies are actually allies of Iran; and that is Bush's big shock."
- 14. Under the headline "As ye sow, so shall ye reap", the editorial in Sharjah-based Arabic daily "Al-Khaleej" (circulation 90,000) 08/15 read:
- "Following the continuous resignations by many key White House figures from the White House, the latest of them from Karl Rove, and the departure of many of Bush's allies such as Tony Blair, Jos Mara and Silvio Berlusconi, Bush is left all alone to confront the non-stopping blizzards hitting him. One can only say this to him: "As ye sow, so shall ye reap".

15. Under the headline "The rest will follow", a columnist, Ali Hageeg, wrote a 08/16 op-ed in Dubai-based Arabic daily "Al-Bayan" (circulation 85,000):

"Ongoing resignations by key White House figures, the latest of them from Karl Rove, are not due to exceptional situations but rather reflect a series of Bush's failures and scandals."

"This is the end of those who intervene in the destinies of peoples, without experience or expertise, destroying regulations and trampling on the lives of innocent people. Poor Karl Rove. The rest will follow."

QUINN